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King statement on Implementation of the SAFE Port Act

Washington, D.C. (Tuesday, October 30, 2007)— U.S. Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, released the following statement regarding the Department of Homeland Security's implementation of the SAFE Port Act, which the Republican Staff of the Committee examined in a report released today:

“Just over one year ago, the President signed the SAFE Port Act into law, landmark legislation adopted by the Republican-led Congress that makes over 90 important mandates and recommendations to ensure our ports are secured against a terrorist attack,” King said. “DHS has made significant progress in implementing the SAFE Port Act and deserves to be commended for their hard work. However, there also have been a number of missed deadlines and there is still much more to be done, such as implementation of a secure access program for ports and standards set for securing containers en route to the United States.”

“The Department has to get this right, and must continue to work around the clock until the SAFE Port Act has been fully implemented. A successful terrorist attack—especially a radiological or nuclear device set off in or smuggled through one of our ports—could cost hundreds of thousands of innocent American lives.”

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